

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11, 16-18 and 20 are now pending, wherein claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11 and 16-18 are amended, claims 2, 5, 12-15 and 19 are canceled and claim 20 is new.

Initially, Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's thorough review of the specification and claims. The specification and claims are objected to for minor informalities, and the claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for indefiniteness. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are amended to address the objections and rejections to the specification and claims.

Claims 1-8 and 11-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness in view of the combination of U.S. patent No. 6,882,906 to Geisler et al. ("Geisler") and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0144005 to Videtich ("Videtich"). Claims 9, 10, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness in view of the combination of Geisler, Videtich and U.S. Patent No. 6,330,499 to Chou et al. ("Chou"). These grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' claim 1 recites a method that involves at least one of a plurality of telematics control elements that are modules, each of which

autonomously execute different telematics functions. The method involves receiving a user input or data from the service control center to activate or deactivate at least one of the modules and individually configuring the at least one of the modules to activate or deactivate the module. Whereas the functionality of different telematics services of a telematics system is conventionally performed at the factory, the method of the present invention, by providing telematics services as individually configurable modules, allows for the activation or deactivation of individual control modules anytime during the operation of a vehicle.

Claim 1 is novel and non-obvious in view of Geisler, Videtich and Chou because these patent documents, either alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest individually configuring at least one module based on the receipt of a user input or data from a service control center to activate or deactivate the module.

Geisler discloses a system that activates or disables vehicle functions based on workload estimates. Geisler does not, however, disclose or suggest that the telematics control elements, which are modules that autonomously execute different functions, are individually configurable to be enabled or disabled based on receipt of “a user input or data from the service control center to activate or deactivate at least one of the modules.”

Videtich discloses a method and system for monitoring vehicle preferences. A request for the vehicle preferences by a call center can be initiated by a user of the vehicle. This request, however, is not a request to activate or deactivate at least one of the module”, where the module is one of a plurality of telematics control elements that each autonomously execute different telematics functions.

Chou is cited for elements of dependent claims 9, 10, 18 and 19, but does not overcome the above-identified deficiencies of Geisler and Videtich. Thus, even if one of ordinary skill in the art were motivated to combine Geisler and Videtich, or Geisler, Videtich and Chou, the combination would not disclose or suggest individually configuring at least one module based on the receipt of a user input or data from a service control center to activate or deactivate the module as recited in Applicants’ claim 1.

Claims 3, 4, 6-11, 16-18 and 20 are patentably distinguishable over the current grounds of rejection at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1. Thus, the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

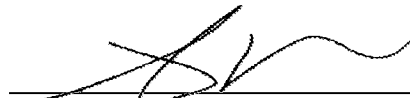
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

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If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #095309.57224US).

Respectfully submitted,

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